

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN DANIEL FUCHS**, on March 10, 2003 at 8:01 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Daniel Fuchs, Chairman (R)
Rep. Ronald Devlin, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Joan Andersen (R)
Rep. Joe Balyeat (R)
Rep. Gary Branae (D)
Rep. Eileen J. Carney (D)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Larry Cyr (D)
Rep. Gary Forrester (D)
Rep. Kim Gillan (D)
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Bob Lake (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Jesse Laslovich (D)
Rep. Jim Peterson (R)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Karl Waitschies (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Kathleen Ely, Committee Secretary
Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch

Video-taped Committee: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 405, 3/6/2003; HB 629, 3/6/2003;
SB 82, 3/6/2003
Executive Action: HB 288, TABLED
SB 82, TABLED
HB 405, TABLED

HEARING ON SB 82

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:00 SEN. KEANE, SD 48 - Short Title: Statewide 2-mill
property tax levy for state parks -- ballot issue.

EXHIBIT (tah50a01)

EXHIBIT (tah50a02)

Proponents' Testimony:

16:00 Doug Monger, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

EXHIBIT (tah50a03)

Opponents' Testimony:

20:00 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

23:00

Closing by Sponsor:

37:00

HEARING ON HB 629

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

44:00 REP. KEANE, HD 48 - Short Title: State Fund to transfer
\$14 million in FY 2004 & 2005 to general fund.

Proponents' Testimony:

47:00 Don Judge, Teamsters Local 190

Opponents' Testimony:

57:00 Tom Beck, Chief Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor

59:00 Matthew Cohn, Montana State Fund

EXHIBIT (tah50a04)

EXHIBIT (tah50a05)

1:09:00 Aidan Myhre, Montana Chamber of Commerce

1:10:00 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent
Businesses

1:12:00 Roger Glenn, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana

1:13:00 Byron Roberts, Montana Building Industry Association
1:15:00 Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Trade Auto Dealers
Association
1:15:00 Barry "Spook" Stang, Montana Motor Carriers Association
1:16:00 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association,
Billings Chamber of Commerce

Informational Testimony:

1:21:00 Mark Berry, Vice President, Montana State Fund
(Called to testify by the Committee.)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

1:18:00

Closing by Sponsor:

2:07:00

HEARING ON HB 405

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

2:09:00 REP. KAUFMANN, HD 53 - Short Title: Trust fund for fire
suppression and land use planning.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony:

2:16:00 Scott Waldron, Chief, Frenchtown Volunteer Fire
Department

EXHIBIT (tah50a06)

EXHIBIT (tah50a07)

2:23:00 John Semple, Montana Fire Alliance
2:24:00 Byron Roberts, Montana Building Industry Association
2:25:00 Joe Roberts, Montana Association of Realtors
2:27:00 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties
2:29:00 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association,
Powell County, Granite County
2:32:00 Cory Swanson, Plum Creek Timber Company

Informational Testimony:

2:35:00 Bob Harrington, Montana State Forester, Department of
Natural Resources

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

2:44:00

Closing by Sponsor:

2:49:00

10:53 a.m. Break

11:11 a.m. Resume

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 288

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 288 DO PASS.

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 288 BE AMENDED.
EXHIBIT (tah50a08)

Discussion:
3:10:00

Vote: Motion carried unanimously 18-0 by voice vote.

Motion/Vote: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 288 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Motion failed 8-10 with REPS. BRANAE, CARNEY, COHENOUR, CYR, ERICKSON, FORRESTER, GILLAN, and LASLOVICH voting aye by roll call vote. CHAIRMAN FUCHS REVERSED THE VOTE AND TABLED THE BILL without objection.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 82

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that SB 82 DO PASS.

Discussion:
3:46:00

Motion/Vote: REP. LASLOVICH moved that HB 82 BE TABLED. Motion carried 14-4 with REPS. CARNEY, COHENOUR, ERICKSON, and GILLAN voting no by roll call vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 405

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 405 DO PASS.

Motion/Vote: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 405 BE AMENDED. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
EXHIBIT (tah50a09)

Motion: REP. ERICKSON moved that HB 405 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Discussion:
3:58:00

Motion/Vote: REP. LAKE moved that HB 405 BE TABLED. Motion carried 14-4 with REPS. BRANAE, CARNEY, ERICKSON, and GILLAN voting no by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:05 A.M.

REP. DANIEL FUCHS, Chairman

KATHLEEN ELY, Secretary

DF/KE

EXHIBIT (tah50aad)